



ROCKY MOUNTAIN COORDINATING GROUP

Bureau of Indian Affairs (Southwest, Rocky Mountain and Great Plains Regions)
Bureau of Land Management (Colorado and Wyoming)
Fish and Wildlife Service (Mountain/Prairie Region)
Forest Service (Rocky Mountain Region)
National Park Service (Intermountain and Midwest Regions)
State Agencies in Colorado, Wyoming, South Dakota, Nebraska and Kansas

Final Meeting Minutes

April 22 - 24, 2003

**Rocky Mountain Coordination Center
Lakewood, Colorado**

Members Present:

Rich Homann
Joyce Feeley
Patrick O'Leary
Bill Wallis
Len Dems
Ray Weidenhaft
Jim Krugman
Tom Corbin
Bob Jacob

Guests Present:

Larry Helmerick
Phil Street
Dan O'Brien
Linda Anania

Rich Homann, Vice Chair of the Rocky Mountain Coordinating Group (RMCG), opened the meeting. Rich asked for additions to the agenda.

Issue Paper, Satellite Internet for Incident Management Teams (IMTs), Doug Wagner

The fire season of 2002 saw a huge increase in the use of the Internet for business processes of managing a fire. It is currently difficult to guarantee reliable and predictable high-speed Internet capability at an Incident Command Post, particularly at remote locations. IMTs are recommending the purchase of a satellite dish system to provide reliable Internet service for each of the three IMTs in the Rocky Mountain area (RMA). The issue paper and the proposed bid are attached. (HO-1) RMCG discussed the plan. RMCG has no pool of money and no way to split the costs. It was agreed the high-speed Internet service was justified but for this year we probably cannot do it. This is a decision the Agency Administrators should be making.

Decision: Bill Wallis requested some funds to cover computer support. He will check to see if and/or how partial funding for this could be worked in. Bill will have a response by June 1, 2003.

Point of Contact - Wildland Fire Use, Len Dems

RMCG discussed and reaffirmed the responsibilities for Fire Use Management Team (FUMT) oversight. The Operations Committee manages the Team and Fuels and Fire Use Committee provides input and coordinated efforts regarding wildland fire use standards, guidelines and protocols. The FUMT's were meeting this week in Boise, Idaho and Len wanted to assure that RMCG knew who the RMA representative was to the meeting and concurred with the responsibilities.

Decision: Mike Frary will be the representative for the RMA at the meeting.



S-420 Course Selection Criteria (HO-2)

Copies of the proposed S-420 course selection criteria, drafted by the Operations Committee, were given to RMCG members. The criteria were discussed.

Decision: RMCG will adopt the selection criteria with the following change.

Suggested change to #1. Priority Nominee - #1. Add wording about "actively participate as a primary member on a Type 3 Incident Management Team, or as an apprentice, and has a taskbook issued and is actively working toward completion. Individuals selected as a trainee on a RMA IMT will receive priority, actively participating on a local Type 3 team and with some tasks in the task book completed."

Jim Krugman will notify Ken Kerr, Operations Committee of the RMCG decision.

Issue Paper, Patrick O'Leary (HO-3)

The issue in this paper was the inconsistency in the Interagency cooperative Fire Management Agreements concerning language about Dispatch Centers and Rocky Mountain Coordination Center (RMACC). Patrick is recommending each agreement be modified to include language about the Dispatch Centers and RMACC. Since the issue paper was submitted to problem has been corrected with the exception of the Wyoming agreement.

Decision: RMCG approve the issue paper and recommended the language in the Wyoming agreement be modified. The Issue paper was approved and signed by Rich Homann.

Executive Liaison Position, Linda Anania (HO-4)

Linda Anania, the current Executive Liaison met with RMCG to discuss the future of that position. She handed out copies of the position description. The position was created during the 2002 fire season by the agency administrators of the RMA, for a Liaison to work between the RMA agency administrators, the MAC group and the RMCG. RMCG discussed their respective agency's opinion of the position and if the position should be maintained.

Decision: Bill Wallis and Rich Homann will use the position description Linda handed out as a basis to develop a position that would be in use during a certain level of activity then go away. They will then get approval from the Agency Administrators if they want to maintain the position.

RMCG asked Linda if she would provide a short summary of some of the experiences she had last fire season.

10 Standard Orders

The IOS Working Team recommended the 10 Standard Fire Orders be changed back to reflect the original fire orders. The proposal was approved by NWCG. Ray Weidenhaft was surprised the recommendation was approved. Some RMCG members had not seen the transmittal. **Len Dems will send it out again.**

RMCG Public Affairs Officer, Len Dems

Larry Helmerick is the Rocky Mountain Area Public Affairs Specialist, detailed to the National Park Service from the Department of Energy. The intent is to have a single point of contact, speaking with one voice, representing the RMA Interagency community. The RMCG needs to establish clear expectations, interagency roles, and address the information flow for the RMACC, RMCG, and RMA cooperators.

Larry will complete the Public Affairs guideline initiated in 2002. When completed, RMCG will review and approve expectations are included and it does not conflict with any agency protocol.



Business Manager and Coordinator

There is still some confusion concerning Sue Muir's position in relation to RMCG and the Incident Business Committee.

Decision: For all Incident business management advise and direction RMCG will go to the Incident Business Committee. Sue is at the RMCG meetings as an interested party, not as an advisor.

Miscellaneous National Fire Issues, Jim Krugman

Jim briefed RMCG and the following National issues:

Chief's Incident Accountability Report and 2003 Action Plan

Large Air Tanker Management

Current Redcard system does not fit with Aphis or NASA positions

ADs and Contractors as supervisors (i.e. ENGB). looking at different hiring policies

New fire shelters, \$259 each

May have 19 large air tankers on by fire season, developing new process for inspecting

\$189,000,000 for helicopter use in 2002

\$40,000,000 for aircraft use in 2002

Interagency Hotshot crews will not be used for mop-up

FLIRS are too expensive, looking at alternatives

Fire-trol is back

RMA Fire Cache Plan is coming up and needs RMCG approval.

The RMCG Business meeting was adjourned. RMCG will reconvene this afternoon for the next phase of the Functional Analysis.



**** Action Items from 04/22/03** - Lakewood, Colorado**

ITEM #	ACTION ITEM 1	DUE 2	RESPONSIBLE 3	STATUS 4	PAGE 5
1.	Adopt the S420 selection criteria with the change. Notify Ken Kerr, Operations Committee of the RMCG decision.	As soon as change is made. 4/23/03	RMCG Jim Krugman	C C	2 2
2.	Approve the issue paper with the recommended language in the Wyoming agreement.	As soon as change is made.	RMCG	C	2
3.	Use the position description handed out at the meeting for Executive Liaison to develop a position that would be in use during a certain level of activity then go away. Get Agency Administrator's approvals of the position and the position description. Provide a short summary of some of the experiences from last fire season.	6/01/03 After PD is finalized ASAP	Bill Wallis Rich Homann Bill Wallis Rich Homann Linda Ananis	P P P	2 2 2
4.	Send copies of the NWCG approval of the 10 Standard Fire Orders to RMCG.	ASAP	Len Dems	C	2
5.	Complete Public Affairs guidelines. Review the book and approve expectations are included and nothing conflicts with any agency protocol.	ASAP When book is complete	Larry Helmerick RMCG	P P	2 2